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The Peddlars' Guild.

The primitive methods of transportation and the inferior quality of Korean roads are responsible for the existence of a very large number of itinerant merchants or peddlars, who lay in a stock of goods at one or other of the country "markets" or fairs and then travel about a circuit selling their wares to the country people. Up to the beginning of the present dynasty these peddlars were not organized in any way, but after the establishment of the present capital and the founding of the various guilds at Chong-no and elsewhere the peddlars determined to form a combination and establish a guild. But two distinct kinds of peddlars were recognized; one kind did not use a *jigi* or porter's frame on the back to carry his goods. He simply carried his wares in a bundle on his back. These goods consisted mainly of pipes, pouches, face powder, bridal decorations, combs, laundry irons, jewelry, waist cords, pens, ink, spectacle cases, various garments, and a hundred other odds and ends that are likely to please the fancy of the country people. This class of peddlars was called *Po-sang* or "Bundle Traders." The other class used the *jigi* on which to carry their goods which consisted mostly of pots, jars, crocks, seaweed, dried fish, paper, fruit, bamboo, or almost any other country product that it would pay to transport. These were called *Pu-sang* or "Backload Traders." Very commonly both of these names are used together and these traders are known by the joint name *Po-pu-sang* or Bundle and Backload Traders. Very many of these traders

are employed in bringing up to the capital the natural and industrial products of the country and having traded them in Seoul carry back articles of luxury that are found almost nowhere except in the metropolis.

So the two kinds of peddlars formed separate guilds throughout the country. Each large town had its guild, and there was no organic connection between them, but a common name and common interests resulted in a sort of general fraternity that worked harmoniously. These guilds were, in effect, mutual aid societies which would lend money to their members, if it was needed, and would furnish the money to bury a dead member if he left no means. It was a sort of free-masonry which worked to the benefit both of the members and the general public; because in the first place it guaranteed a more regular trade throughout the country, and in the second place offered a more dependable means of having goods transported from point to point, and in the third place afforded greater security for goods, for in case a district was infested with highwaymen the peddlars would band together and travel in companies of such size as to daunt the boldest bandit. In addition to this the peddlars acted as letter-carriers between the country and Seoul and between different points in the country. The Government supported no postal facilities except for official correspondence and consequently the people had to depend upon chance travellers or upon the peddlars, and as the latter were generally well known and travelled with considerable regularity they very often carried letters back and forth, receiving a gratuity large or small, as the generosity of the sender or receiver might dictate.

The working of the guilds was very harmonious even though the separate guilds of the brotherhood had no special territory within which they must carry on business. Any *Pu-sang* could carry his goods to any place and sell them as he was able. One would think that this would stir up difficulties but such was not the case. It is easy to see, however, that competition was not very common, for no peddler would carry goods very far to sell to people who could buy from peddlars nearer by. The cost of transportation by man-back was so great as to restrict the operations of the guilds to those neighboring places which could be most easily

reached. The laws made by each guild for its own government were not necessarily similar to the laws of other guilds, though naturally there was a great likeness between them. These laws were very strict and infringement of them was punished in a summary manner. Each guild had its president, vice-president, treasurer, secretary, attorney and committees on trades routes, trade openings, audit, supply-markets, charities etc. All these were honorary positions but necessary expenses incurred in the transaction of guild business were paid out of the treasury. The treasury was kept supplied not by regular assessments upon the members but by a tax of one half of one per cent on all gross receipts, which would be an average perhaps of two thirds per cent on the net profits.

There was a general meeting of all the members of the guild four times a year, in Spring, Summer, Autumn and Winter; usually in the first, fourth, seventh and tenth moons. At these meetings each member narrated his experiences and reported on the trade conditions of the districts he traversed. At the same time he rendered an account of sales, receipts and expenses and paid over the proper amount of taxes to the treasurer. When a peddler starts out on a trip he has to report to the central committee the quality, amount and price of the goods he is taking so that when he returns his report of sales and receipts may be audited.

These guilds paid no regular stated tax or license to the government, but after the annual accounts had been made out and the books balanced whatever surplus there might be was used (1) to make presents to such members as had done most for the guilds during the year; (2) to buy some little delicacy in the way of food for each of the members; (3) to pay for a sacrificial ceremony in honor of the guild; and (4) to pay the annual tax to the magistrate. This tax was paid only in case there was money left over after all the other calls had been met and it varied in proportion to the net profits of the guild. That it was not a regular tax is seen from the fact that all other expenses took precedence of it, which is not at all the case with taxes in Korea. They are levied whether there be anything left or not. One would think the guilds might plead an empty treasury every time but it is probable

that the good will of the magistrate was worth too much to carry such excuses to their limit.

In case a member of the guild made a false statement of returns or in any other way acted dishonestly he was punished in proportion to the gravity of his offence. The heaviest penalty was expulsion from the guild, which would make it impossible for him to act as a *pu-sang* in that locality. He would have to take up some other business or else move to some distant place and get into a guild where he was not known. In case his offence was of a lighter character he might be fined or made to apologize or to treat the crowd as the case might be. Sometimes where the offence merited expulsion other members of the guild would go security for him and give bonds for his future good behavior and so secure a mitigation of the sentence.

Every *pu-sang* guild had a sacrifice once a year, in the tenth moon at the same time that all Koreans sacrifice to the "house spirit" or the *lares* and *penates*. It was performed at the guild headquarters, a pig always figuring as the *pièce de resistance*. The guild had no tutelary deity of its own but the spirit of the house which was the headquarters of the guild was supposed to be able to bring good luck to the whole concern. They also had a sacrifice in the twelfth moon to say good bye to the old year, and another in the first moon to usher in the new year, but these were secondary to the one celebrated in the tenth moon.

In the above description of the *pu-sang* we have used the past tense for to-day the complexion of affairs is very different and while the *pu-sang* nominally exist they are a radical departure from the genuine *pu-sang*. The old regime fell into desuetude about thirty years ago when Korea was beginning to feel the first tremblings of the earthquake that threw down her doors and gave the world access to the hermit's quarters.

By that time the life had gone out of the institution, the laws had fallen into contempt because a process of disintegration had been working in Korean society which tended to break down the social barriers. The good old times when no man was deemed a *yangban* unless he could prove his noble descent were gone and anyone who had tact and persistence could climb into office. This led to disintegration in the low-



er strata of society and men who would never have presumed to aspire to the position even of a *pu-sang* began to be restive under their social disabilities. Gradually many poor fellows of no more honesty than means came into the ranks of the *pu-sang* and the status of the organization went steadily down till it deservedly fell into disrepute and became in the various provinces nuclei for the propagation of lawless ideas. As street boys in New York speak of "the gang," so the *pu-sang* came to be known throughout the country. It is more than conjecture that such social upheavals as that of the *tong-hak* had their genesis within the ranks of the *pu-sang*.

It was at this time, about thirty years ago, that a Seoul man named Kim Se-myŭng, of low extraction but of some influence, formed the idea of exploiting the *pu-sang* idea to his own profit. He therefore secured permission to form a general *pu-sang* guild throughout the country. He established headquarters in Seoul and sent all over the country rallying the thousands of peddlars about his standard with great promises and incidentally taxing them so much a head for the privilege of joining the movement. The plan was, nominally, to pay the government a handsome tax, but no one is aware that the exchequer ever benefitted much by it. But it did not take many years for the poor country fellows to find out that the widely advertised benefits that they were to derive from the transaction were coming pretty high, and so the whole business fell through, but not till Kim Se-myŭng had feathered his nest. But the *pu-sang* was not by any means extinct. It takes time to kill a custom that has survived four centuries or more. Lieut. Geo. C. Foulk, Naval Attaché to the U. S. Legation in Seoul in 1884, in his vividly interesting account of a trip to the ginseng growing region about Songdo tells us how on a certain night when it was necessary for him to travel a mountain road, the local magistrate sent out for *pu-sang* to act as his escort and how with flaring torches they led him over the hills to the music of their wierd chants. The *pu-sang* were strong vigorous fellows who knew the roads well, who were accustomed to using torches and whom the magistrate frequently called upon for such service.

It was not until 1894 that the *pu-sang* ceased to exist as an organization. This was one of the numerous "reforms"

that were instituted in that memorable year. But it was destined to another resurrection in 1898 when the government was brought face to face with the Independent Club, and the radical platform of that organization. It was deemed unadvisable to use the government troops against this popular movement and so some of the leading conservative officials, especially Hong Chong-u, Kil Yüng-su, Yi Keui-tong and Kim Yüng-jük advised the re-establishment of the *pu-sang* as a counter-demonstration in favor of the conservative idea. It was done and the two organizations came to blows several times. The *pu-sang* were armed with clubs and had behind them the whole influence of the conservative government while the members of the Independent movement had no backing except their belief in the integrity of their motives. The result is well known. The conservatives won the day. From that time a complete change occurred in the *pu-sang* organization. It ceased to exist in the country where it had flourished for centuries, but grew to great proportions in Seoul. These men are not genuine *pu-sang*, for they perform none of the functions of that order, but they form a sort of silent reserve that may at any time be called out at the behest of the government. They are well paid and can be depended upon to do what they are ordered to do.

### Mudang and Pansu.

The work of the *p'ansu* is comprised under two general heads, *chüm* and *kyüng*, the former meaning divination of all kinds and the latter meaning exorcism. As we have said, the former of these occupies by far the larger part of his energies, and we will therefore consider it first.

The different kinds of divination may be tabulated as follows: (1) When a man has committed an offence, to find out whether he will escape punishment; (2) when he has committed some meritorious act, to find out whether he will receive a reward; (3) when he has a particular piece of work to do, to find out whether it will be successful or not; (4) to find out what will happen during the day; (5) to find out



what will happen during the month ; (6) to find out what will happen during the year ; (7) to find out what will happen up to the point of death ; (8) to find out what was his condition during a former state of existence ; (9) to find out whether he carries in his body the seeds of some great misfortune ; (10) if he has lost something, to find out how to recover it ; (11) if someone has run away, how to find him or her ; (12) whether a journey will be prosperous ; (13) to find out the condition of a distant friend or relative ; (14) to find out the day of one's death ; (15) to find out when one will become wealthy ; (16) to point out the cause of a sickness or disease ; (17) if a person is about to move, to find out in what direction he should go and where he should settle ; (18) to find out whether he can repair his house without suffering any misfortune ; (19) to find out whether he will draw a prize in the lottery ; (20) to find out whether it will be wise to purchase a certain slave ; (21) to find out when a son will be born ; (22) to find out when one will attain official rank ; (23) to find out when he will be let out of prison ; (24) to find out when a fugitive will return ; (25) to find out what imp has caused sickness ; (26) to find out whether a son or daughter will have a successful life ; (27) to find out how a spirit may be propitiated ; (28) to find out when one must marry in order to secure a happy life ; (29) to find out where to get a good husband for one's daughter ; (30) to learn whether a dream that one has had means good or bad ; (31) to find out whether it will be safe to cut down a certain tree or not (because of spirits) ; (32) to find out whether it will be safe to move a grave ; (33) to cast a child's horoscope ; (34) to find out whether it will be well for a woman to bear a child at her own house or to go to some other place until after the child is born.

These are not all the kinds of divination practiced by the *p'ansu* but they are the principal kinds. It will not be necessary to explain all these in detail but the most important ones are worthy of more special examination.

We have already stated that divination is accomplished with the use of dice-boxes, coins or Chinese characters. Each of these systems is a science in itself and no *p'ansu* masters more than one of them. Any kind of divination can be accomplished with any of the three systems and therefore the

knowledge of only one is sufficient. It may be illustrated by a comparison between the alapathic and homeopathic schools of medicine. Either one claims to cure disease but the methods are very different. The method in which the dice-boxes are used is called the *san-tong* or "number box" system; that in which coins are used is called the *ton-jum* or "money divination" system, and that in which Chinese characters are used is called the *ch'ak-chŭm* or "book divination." Of these three kinds the "number box" divination is the lowest and is practiced only by the *p'ansu*. The "money divination" is a little more respectable but is confined almost wholly to the "profession." The "book divination," however, depending as it does upon the Chinese character is a much higher grade of the science and is practiced not only by professionals but any gentleman may learn more or less of it and use his knowledge for his own benefit.

We will begin with the lowest grade and work upward. We have already said that any of the thirty-four inquiries may be answered by means of any one of the three methods but certain kinds are *ordinarily* answered by special methods. Those that are answered by the lowest form, that of "dice-box divination," are numbers 1, 2, 16, 19, 23, 24, 27, 28, 29, 31 and 34. Those that are answered especially often by the "money divination" are numbers 15 and 25. Those that are answered by "book divination" are numbers 3, 8, 13, 14, 17, 18, 20, 21, 22, 30, and 32. All the remainder are answered with equal frequency by any of the methods. It will be seen from an examination of these that as a rule the more reasonable and the higher forms of question are answered by "book divination."

"Dice-box divination" consists in throwing from a small dice-box certain little square metal rods, about as large as a friction match, with notches cut in their sides. There are eight of these. On one of them there is only one notch, on another two notches and so forth up to eight notches. The dice-box was formerly in the shape of a tortoise, but this has now changed. Yet this is sometimes called still the "tortoise divination." These eight "dice" with their eight notches correspond to what the Koreans called the *palgwǎ* or 八卦, and four of them are found on the four corners of the Korean

national flag. The method of procedure is to throw a single die and mark the number of notches, then throw another and mark the number and finally to throw a third and mark the number. The combination is now complete and the *p'ansu* has to work out the problem in his mind. After each throw the die is put back in the box, so that it will be seen that according to the law of permutation and combinations there will be hundreds of possible events. For each combination the *p'ansu* has a little verse of poetry on his tongue's end, a formula which he repeats and from which the listener gathers a favorable or unfavorable augury. As there is a definite formula for each it will be seen that the formula must be in the form of an enigma, for whether the questioner be asking about a lucky journey or the recovery of lost property or the birth of a son the formula must contain the answer. The skill of the *p'ansu* is exhibited in fitting the formula to the question in hand. Let us suppose that a man has asked the question, "When will my friend Kim get out of jail?" The *p'ansu* makes the three throws and the formula elicited is, "If the net be old the *yi-ŭ* (the carp) will break through." The *p'ansu* will say, probably, that as the carp is always caught in the winter season the man's friend will languish in durance vile till the next winter comes around, and then break the net.

The second class of *p'ansu* is the one who practices divination by the use of coins. This is called the *ton-chum* or "money divination." Instead of using a dice box he carries, as the instruments of his profession, either four, six or eight ancient Korean coins. Those that have seal characters of China on them are considered the best but any old coins will do. We have before us four old coins that have been worn quite smooth by the *p'ansu*. They are the *Cho-sun Tong-bu* or "Chosŏn eastern treasure" and the *p'ansu* will tell you that they have come down from the time of Ki-ja, but this of course cannot be true for they are stamped with the square character. They were made at the beginning of the present dynasty five centuries ago.

With these in hand he is ready to answer any question that the curious or anxious Korean may ask. To do this he shakes the coins in his hand and then drops one. He gen-

erally has a helper who tells him what turns up. He makes three throws and then from the combination gives the formula or enigma and interprets it in accord with the sense of the question. Sometimes he throws all the coins three times in succession and so makes his answer. In the dice-box divination there is only one method but with the money divination there are many different methods or recipes, and a man will divine by that method that he has learned, just as a cook will make a dish according to the recipe with which he is familiar.

It is not only blind men who practice the money divination but "half blind" men very commonly do it, those who can see light and darkness but who cannot distinguish objects clearly. There is also a class of women who stand midway between the *mudang* and *p'ansu* and practice divination by means of coins. They are not blind. The peculiarity of their work is that having thrown the coins they claim that their "familiar spirit" tells them what to say and so tells the fortune or answers the question of the customer. Neither these women nor the half blind diviners can belong to the guild.

The third and highest form of divination is called "book divination." This is the least confined to the professional class. Very many gentlemen know and practice it for their own amusement, but never for a fee. It is the use of the Chinese characters that dignifies this form of divination.

The method of practicing "book divination" is to ask the question at what hour on what day of what month of what year he was born. These four dates taken two each in every possible combination give four characters and from these the diviner makes up a verse of poetry. Then he determines which of the four characters fits best the question of his client. Then using this character as an index he looks up the corresponding passage in his diviner's book, which he carries as faithfully as a surveyor does his logarithmic tables, and the passage which he finds will be the enigma from which the questioner must extract an answer to his inquiry.

(To be continued.)

## Korean Relations with Japan.

### THE JAPANESE RULERS

On the 21st year of King Sūn-jo (宣祖) Hideyoshi killed the Shogun and usurped the office himself. In the 31st year of King Sūn-jo (源家康) or *Minamoto no Ieyasu* regained the Shogunate. In the 40th year of King Sūn-jo (A. D. 1607) Wūn Ka-gang's son, (源秀忠) or *Minamoto no Hidetada* became Shogun. In the 8th year of Kwang-hā (光海) *Minamoto no Ieyasu* died. In the 1st year of King In-jo (仁祖) or *Hidetada* gave the Shogunate to his son (家光) or *Iyemitsu* and ten years later died. In the first year of King Hyo-jong (孝宗) A. D. 1650 Wun Ka-gwang died and his son (家綱) or *Iyetsuna* became Shogun. In the 6th year of King Suk-chong (肅宗) *Iyetsuna* died and his son (綱吉) or *Tsunayoshi* became Shogun; and in the 35th year of King Suk-chong *Tsunayoshi* died and his nephew (家宣) or *Iyenobu* became Shogun. In the 38th year of King Suk-chong (A. D. 1712) *Iyenobu* died and his son (家繼) or *Iyetsugu* became Shogun. Four years later *Iyetsugu* died and one of his relatives, (吉宗) or *Yoshimune* became Shogun. In the 21st year of King Yong-jong (英宗) A. D. 1745 the Shogunate passed to the hands of (家重) or *Iyeshige*. In the 36th year of King Yong-jong the Shogun's son (家治) or *Iyeharu* came to the seat of power. In the 16th year of King Chōng-jong *Iyeharu* died and his son (家齊) or *Iyenari* became Shogun. In the 3rd year of King Hōn-jong (憲宗) A. D. 1837, (家慶) or *Ieyoshi* became Shogun. In the 4th year of King Ch'ul-jong (哲宗) A. D. 1853, (家定) or *Iyesada* succeeded his father. The same year he died and was succeeded by (家茂) or *Iyeshige*. (We have given this list just as it is written in the manuscript so that it can be compared with the Japanese chronology. *Ed.*)

### ENVOYS FROM JAPAN.

Formerly the Korean Government sent to and welcomed the envoys from the central Japanese Government but sub-



sequently envoys stopped coming from the Shogun and if there was any business to transact it was done through the Daimyo of Tsushima.

#### THE DAIMYOS OF TSUSHIMA.

(平義智) or *Taira no Yoshitomo* became the trusted companion of Hideyoshi and in the 21st year of King Sūn-jo Hideyoshi deposed (宗盛長) or *So Morinaga* and made *Yoshitomo* the Daimyo of Tsushima. In the 7th year of Kwang-hā (A. D. 1615) *Yoshitomo* died and his son (義成) or *Yoshinari* assumed the Daimyoship without permission. (This means without permission from the central Government, *Ed.*) In the 8th year of King Hyo-jong (A. D. 1657) *Yoshinari* died and (義眞) or *Yoshizane* assumed control without permission. In the 18th year of King Suk-chong (A. D. 1692) (義倫) or *Yoshitomo* became Daimyo but two years later he died and his father resumed the office and held it eight years more, when he died leaving the office to his second son (義方) or *Yoshikata*. In the 44th year of King Suk-chong (A. D. 1718) (義誠) or *Yoshinobu* acceded to the Daimyoship. In the 6th year of King Yong-jong (A. D. 1730) this Daimyo died and his younger brother (方熙) or *Katahiro* usurped the place. Two years later his nephew (義如) or *Yoshiyuki* succeeded to the Daimyoship and held it twenty years, when he died and his younger brother (義蕃) or *Yoshishige* in turn seized the office. Eight years later he turned the cares of state over to his nephew (義暢) or *Yoshinobu*. In the 2nd year of King Chōng-jong the Daimyo died and his son (義功) or *Yoshinori* seized the reins of government. In the 13th year of King Sun-jo (義質) or *Yoshitada* succeeded his father. In the 5th year of King Hon-jong (A. D. 1839) (義章) or *Yoshiakira* seized the place upon the death of his father. Four years later he died and his younger brother (義和) or *Yoshikazu* assumed control. In the 1st year of King Chūl-jong (A. D. 1850) (義達) or *Yoshisato* received the office from his father.

#### ENVOYS FROM TSUSHIMA.

At the time of *Yoshitomo*, the yearly embassy came in twenty boats, but not all together. Three trips were made.



First came six first-class boats, afterwards seven second-class boats and lastly seven third-class boats. The number of men and the size of the boats were all agreed in upon advance.

#### BOATS CARRYING SEALS TO TSUSHIMA.

Five Koreans were sent at various times with seals of office for the rulers of Tsushima. They were Man Song-wŭn, Yu Pang-wŭn, Yi Chŭng-am, P'yŭng Eun-sam and P'yŭng Hui-ju. (There seems to be a mistake here for the last name at least is that of one of the Daimyos. *Ed.*)

#### JAPANESE FROM TSUSHIMA WHO RECEIVED KOREAN RANK.

Five men were so honored. They were (平智吉) or *Tairano Tomoyoshi* (平信時) or *Tairano Nobutoki*, etc.

After the war of the invasion of Korea, out of gratitude to these men they were given the rank of Sang-ho-gun (上護軍) and Pu-ho-gun (副護軍)

All these envoys came not to Seoul but only to Fusan, from which place they forwarded their messages to the Capital and they were feasted there. When, under this arrangement, the Japanese (玄蘇) or *Genso* came as envoy he wanted to come up to Seoul as had been done when envoys came direct from the Shogun, but he could not gain the the consent of the Korean government. In the 14th year of Prince Kwang-hā (A. D. 1622) the envoy Hyŭn bang again asked permission to go to Seoul but was was denied. In the seventh year of King In-jo (A. D. 1629) Wā-ch'u (倭酋) (a term of reproach meaning "Dwarf Chief." *Ed.*) a Japanese ruler succeeded in getting an envoy (玄昉) or *Gembo* through to Seoul "in-cognito" but it was only because at that time the Koreans were disturbed by the coming of a Westerner.

### Across Siberia by Rail.

As we have already explained, the best train from Moscow leaves daily at half past four in the afternoon for Warsaw or

"Varshava" as the Russians call it. It is a twenty eight hour's run. It will be necessary, in Moscow, to have all passports "vised" twice. The second one is to enable the traveler to get out of Russia. This will all be done by hotel people and they will charge two and a half roubles to put it through. However many days one may stay in Moscow he should go to the Smolenski station on his arrival in Moscow and secure a *place carte* for the train to Warsaw. If he leaves it until the hour for starting he will probably find them all taken and he will have to wait. He must secure a seat at least one day in advance.

At Warsaw it is necessary not only to change cars but to change stations as well. The station from which you leave Warsaw is clear across the city but upon your arrival you will find a train waiting to transfer you to the other station. Arriving at Warsaw at 8.40 in the evening, transfer your luggage to the transfer trains, leave it in charge of the guard, and ride around to the other station by carriage. A double carriage will cost only ninety kopeks and the drive will show you the most interesting portion of Warsaw.

The train starts for Berlin at eleven or a little later, but there are no sleeping cars. This will not make much difference, for you will be awakened anyway at half past three at the German border where your baggage will be examined by the German customs authorities and you will have to change cars again. From this point the speed is greatly increased and you reach Berlin a little before dark that same day. On every train from Dalny to the English Channel you will find a dining-car where food is served at a remarkably low cost.

Since arriving in London many questions have been asked implying considerable doubt as to whether the Siberian route is really as comfortable as one might want. The answer must be an emphatic affirmative. With one or two insignificant exceptions the whole trip is an easy and delightful one. Those of our party who came straight through without stopping off anywhere, reached London exactly sixteen days from the hour we left Dalny. In the near future this will probably be reduced by at least one day. This will mean that one can start from Chemulpo on the first of the month and reach New York city via London in twenty five days, at the

outside. But no one should pass Moscow without seeing some of the interesting points. Your guide will try to discourage your climbing the 271 stairs in the Tower of Ivan in the Kremlin, but do not listen to him. From the top you get as fine a view of Moscow as can be gotten of any city in any country. It is well worth while stopping over just to see the line of 860 cannon taken from Napoleon in 1812.

As has been already said we arrived in the city of Irkutsk on Friday afternoon at four o'clock, seven hours less than six days out from Dalny. The distance that we had covered was 3,300 versts or 2,200 miles and we still had 5,100 versts before us, or 3,400 miles, before reaching Moscow. We covered that 3,400 miles in almost precisely seven days, which shows that the rate of speed was very much greater west of Irkutsk than it had been to the east of it. The truth is that from Lake Baikal eastward the line is as yet very new and rough. There are many places where the train can go only five or six miles an hour with safety. West of Irkutsk the line has been in operation for some years and has assumed somewhat the aspect of a settled road though in parts there is still much to be desired.

Pulling out from Irkutsk about six o'clock Friday afternoon we ran directly northwest all that night and the next day to the town of Kievsk which is about  $56\frac{1}{2}$  degrees north latitude. The weather became perceptibly colder and as we passed through a thickly wooded and hilly country we saw plenty of snow and ice. In fact, while winter had evidently said good-bye, spring had scarcely made her appearance as yet. From Kievsk we turned directly west and ran the better part of a day to Atchinsk which is the most northerly point reached though only a very few miles further north than Kievsk. Then turning southwesterly again we ran down to Kansk. This part of the journey was first through forests but afterward across an almost perfectly level and treeless plain. Here we found an almost continuous snow bank along the line, all the way from four to eight feet deep. It was caused by the low fences erected along the line to prevent the snow drifting upon the track. The slight obstacle had given an opportunity for the snow to lodge and it will be the end of May at least before it entirely disappears. So far as we could see the whole

region was practically uninhabited except for people connected with the railway in some capacity. There was no agriculture nor any signs of it. It appeared as if the occasional large centers like Irkutsk were distributing centers for vast stretches of country in which mining and fur hunting are carried on. Throughout this whole section from Irkutsk to the Ural Mountains the railway cuts the waterways at right angles. This must be of enormous value in the development of the country for each of these great rivers stretching north and south from the railway carry boats of considerable size and are the feeders of the railway, or will be. Westward from Kansk the aspect of things changes a little. We see an occasional plowed field and other slight evidences of work independent of the railways. Each day sees a slight increase in the speed of our train. We pass the important city of Omsk cross the great Irtysh River and push westward to the city of Ob and the mighty Obi river until the town of Petropanlovsk is reached, which is midway between Irkutsk and Moscow. It has taken us three days and a half from Irkutsk and unless the speed is accelerated it will take seven days to reach Moscow but as we drive westward across the plains we continually increase the speed, passing Chilabinsk and entering the Ural Mountains. These are merely hills of moderate height thickly covered with pines. It takes one day to pass through this hill country and it is here that we find the best scenery between Irkutsk and Moscow. In the midst of the mountains we come upon a beautiful town on the margin of a lake that makes you think of Switzerland. Here you gain your first intimation that you are approaching Europe. As you come down the western slopes on to the plains of European Russia you find one boundless wheat field as far as the eye can reach in every direction, day in and day out. You do not see a single isolated farm house. The people all cluster in villages and of these country villages we saw not one that was superior to an ordinary Korean country village. At a distance one could scarcely detect the difference between them and Korean villages, but when you add to this that these Russian houses have only dirt floors you are almost forced to conclude that the Koreans are actually more comfortably housed than the Russian peasantry. There was this difference. Every Rus-

sian village had an imposing church edifice with green painted roof and bulbous spires.

The Volga was in flood. As we passed over the great Alexander bridge, over four thousand feet long, we could see a vast expanse of water. The banks were overflowed and the river was anywhere from four to twelve miles wide. Any number of houses were almost or quite submerged and the whole scene was one of mighty power. The snows of the north had melted too quickly and this was the result. After following down the Volga for twenty miles we struck westward over a rolling country and finally on Friday afternoon at half past one, some hours less than thirteen days out from Dalny, we caught the glint of gold on the minarets of Moscow. At Moscow you leave the train and transfer to another station called the *Smolenski Stanze* or Smolenski Station, if you are going through to Warsaw and western Europe. But no one goes through Moscow without stopping, unless he intends to come back to it later. It is the one great city of Russia to see, and surpasses St. Petersburg in historic interest though its buildings may not be so fine. At any of the leading hotels one can make himself understood in English. We put up at the Hotel Billo which is very central and at the same time perfectly comfortable. Nothing could exceed the efforts of our host to make us at home and to supply us with all necessary information. The English newspapers arrive daily and they are eagerly read by the new arrivals from the far east. But we should hasten to say that we did not have to wait till we reached Moscow before seeing an English paper. Far to the east of the Urals in the railway station at Krasnoyarsk and Chelabinsk we picked up copies of the *Standard* and the *Daily News* eight days out from London. There was only one copy of each and it was completely worn out by the time it had been read through (advertisements and all) by the dozen or more English people on the train.

It is not our purpose to describe the sights in Moscow. This paper is simply to give information as to the conditions of travel across the continent. It will be remembered that we had paid 119 roubles for second class and 158 roubles first class from the town of Manchuria to Warsaw. This, we found, entitled us to sleeping car privileges only as far as Mos-



cow and that to go by the best train from Moscow to Warsaw we must pay five and a half roubles extra which covered sleeping accommodations and excess fare for speed. The good train starts every day from Moscow at 4:30 P. M. and arrives in Warsaw 28 hours later. You must then buy another ticket for Berlin, Paris or London, whichever may be your destination. You wait in Warsaw from 8:40 P. M. till midnight before proceeding toward Berlin.

There are few additional remarks that should be made in regard to the conditions of travel on this Siberian Railway. We have already said that ordinary drinking water cannot be procured but boiling water can be secured at any time from the buffet free of charge, or from any station of any size. If one should have a few bottles or any other receptacle he could secure boiling water and let it cool. We would recommend strongly a Russian drink called *Kvass* which is a delicious effervescent beverage which tastes very much like cider but is entirely free from alcohol. It costs but twenty cents for a large bottle and is a great favorite especially with ladies and children. From Irkutsk westward the train is provided with a bath-room the use of which is charged for at the rate of two roubles for a bath. At almost any large station bottles of milk can be bought from the peasants and especially among the Urals one should be on the lookout for the delicious butter and cream that are eagerly sold by the peasant women for a few cents. It is certain that if a man is willing to take pains he can provide food for himself wife and three children at a maximum cost of three and a half roubles a day. We are writing now for those who find it necessary to economize. Others, of course, find it possible to spend six or eight roubles a day at the table. The entire cost of everything from Chermulpo to London via the Siberian Railway need not be more than 300 yen even though every meal is eaten in the dining car. This could easily be bettered by ten or fifteen dollars but it is hardly worth while. As we have already intimated, there will be a through service from Dalny to Moscow in July and then one can buy a ticket through instead of buying again at Manchuria. At the same time the fare will probably be reduced on the Manchurian section so as to correspond with the average price per mile on the regular Siberian line. This



will probably mean a saving of at least twenty yen on the above figures, though of this we cannot yet be sure.

A word as to the best time of year to travel by this line. In winter it is very cold, but the train is always warm enough. The difficulty is that one wants to get out and exercise at the stations and this might be dangerous especially for children. In the summer time certain portions of the route are exceedingly hot and dusty and the hundreds and hundreds of miles of marshy woodland breed innumerable mosquitoes so that one should go provided with some powerful lotion for the face and hands as a protection. The best time to travel is either the spring or the autumn, the former being preferable, because the daylight lasts from four in the morning until half past eight at night while in the autumn the days are very short. One should be armed beforehand with a few of the most important words in Russian such as

Kleb=bread	Voda=water
Marsla=butter	Niet=no
Chai=tea	Da-da=yes
Moloko=milk	Kaffe=coffee
Skolka Stoit=what is the price?	

At least a month before starting out on this journey one should send to the agency of the Eastern Steamship Company at Shanghai and secure a time-table printed in English and any other printed matter they may have, for nothing of any description can be obtained in Dalny. It is very remarkable that they have nothing at Dalny, even in French, for the accommodation of travellers who do not understand Russian. This we believe will be changed soon and also there should certainly be someone at the terminal office at Dalny who can speak English.

But with all the minor drawbacks it still remains true that this is a magnificent piece of work. Grandly conceived and grandly carried out. The traveller can reach London from Shanghai in less than twenty days, whereas by any other route he must spend at least thirty-six days. From Shanghai the fare to London via the Siberian line is not much less than second class on the German or French steamers. It is the speed which will determine the question.

It is with much regret that we have to record the death at the British Mines at Mount Gwendoline, Corea, of Mr. George Mitchell, Engineer of the British and Korean Corporation, who died of dysentery on Sunday the 28th of June at the age of 34 years.

At the outset the attack did not appear very serious, and no fears were entertained as to the ultimate result. The patient was placed in comfortable quarters, a special milch-cow was put aside solely for his use, and Doctor Campbell, the physician of the mine, was in constant attendance upon him. But a few days before death the malady took a virulent turn, and from that time the patient gradually sank.

The remains were brought down to Chemulpo as soon as arrangements could be completed, Mr. Williams, the General Manager of the mines, himself taking charge of and accompanying the coffin.

The body was brought ashore from the steamer at noon of the 3rd of July, and a large number of friends, who had assembled at the jetty, accompanied the remains to the Chemulpo Cemetery. Mr. Jordan, H. B. M's Minister to Corea, and Mr. Lay, H. B. M's Consul at Chemulpo, were both present at the obsequies.

A most impressive service was held over the body by Rev. G. A. Bridle, officiating clergyman, assisted by the Reverend Father Drake and the Rev. A. B. Turner, both the latter of whom had volunteered their services, and had come down from Seoul to take part in the ceremony.

There were a very large number of floral offerings, and a photograph of the grave was taken after the interment.

Mr. Mitchell was born near London, of Scotch parents, whose residence latterly has been in Arbroath, Scotland. He arrived in Corea in October, 1902, where his genial nature gained him many friends, who mourn his loss and join in sympathy with the grief-stricken parents and relatives. \*

## Odds and Ends.

### **Kwan-ak Mountain.**

Looking directly south from Seoul, across the valley of the Han one sees the bare rocky slopes of Kwan-ak Mountain. This means literally "Hat-peak Mountain," which seems to have no application at all. But formerly there was small a fortress near this mountain, named Keum-gwan Sŭng, or "Gold-hat Fortress." It was the stronghold of one of the tribes that flourished in Korea in early times. Then the *Keum* was dropped and the *ak* is simply another word for mountain. There are said to be fourteen monasteries on the slopes of this mountain.

### **A very Practical Joke.**

He was a young and innocent looking boy as he came into the inn and looked about for a place to set down his load for the night, but in fact he was a thief who was in league with a band of robbers and he had come with the intention of "cleaning out" the inn. The inn-keeper was an old man with an extraordinary long white beard. The young scamp saw it and marked the old man for his prey. When all were asleep in the one large sleeping room the young rascal crept to his bag and fumbled about in it till he found some sulphur and a long string. Then he found the sleeping inn-keeper and filled his beard with the sulphur after which he tied the sleeping guests all together by their top-knots with the long string. Then he crept out the door and soon returned with an armful of stones. These he tucked into the wide sleeves of the sleeping guests until they were well ballasted. After this he collected all the things he wanted to carry away; but just as he was about to start he put his head in at the door and shouted "Wake up and catch the thief." The inn-keeper hastened to strike a light but in doing so his long beard caught fire and burned merrily. The poor old man was dancing about the room over the forms of the guests who found themselves all tied together and their sleeves so heavy that they could scarcely move. The young fellow watched the moving scene until he had extracted as much fun out of it as his dangerous position would permit and then made off with his booty.

**Sharp eyes.** It is said that from long long ago the people of Song-do have had the sharpest eyes of anyone in Korea. How this comes about we do not know. Perhaps the geomancers could tell, but we have not consulted them. This keenness of observation is illustrated in the case of a Song-do woman who came up to Seoul to have a *kugyŏng* of the capital. She was passing along the street near "Hen Bridge" and she saw a shop where many pictures were exposed for sale. There were tigers and lions and dogs and cocks and other animals and birds represented, but her sagacious eye picked out an old and faded picture of a tiger which, in spite of its dilapidated condition, had a curious yellow gleam in its eye. She chuckled to herself as she paid the three cash which was demanded. When the bargain was completed she asked for a coal of fire from the brazier. It was handed out to her and she deliberately set fire to a corner of the paper. The bystanders thought she was crazy but they found out differently when the paper was all consumed *except the tiger's eyes* which fell to the ground with a thud! She picked them up, thrust them into her bosom and elbowed her way through the crowd saying with a broad grin, "I'm not so old yet but that I can tell gold when I see it."

**Costly  
Arrows.**

A gentleman in Seoul having failed to gain an official position found himself reduced to the last cash. He looked about to see what he could pawn and found that there was nothing except a lot of old arrows which his father had somehow accumulated. He called in a middle man and told him to dispose of these as best he could and deduct his commission. The next day the middle-man came back with loads and loads of money. There were a dozen horse-loads at least. The gentleman looked upon this with amazement and wanted to know where it all came from. The middle-man answered him that it all came from the sale of the arrows. He then drew the gentleman aside and said, "I found that every arrow was hollow and contained a rod of silver. This is why the returns are so large." With this small fortune the gentleman bought fields and houses and became a flourishing member of society once more. But he never learned the secret of the arrows till one day there came from the country an old friend of his father's. The story

was told him and he instantly replied, "Don't you know how it came about? Your father went to China and there made a large fortune. He wanted to bring it to Korea but was afraid of robbers by the way, so he filled the hollow bamboo arrow shafts with silver knowing that though robbers might take the quiver they would not take such heavy arrows, for they never would shoot."

## News Calendar.

TAKEN FROM THE KOREAN PAPERS.

The Korean Government has removed the telegraph poles planted by the Russian Government at Eui Ju.

The Post Office Department has ordered the Governor of South Pyeng Yang Province to put in 60 poles per day, covering a distance of 10 *Li*, in order to establish a telephone line between Seoul and Pyeng Yang.

On the 14th of July the English, French and Russian Ministers were granted audiences with the Emperor.

The English Minister desired that Eui Ju be made a Trade Port.

The French Minister requests a mining concession in Chang Sung.

The Acting Russian Minister consulted the Emperor regarding the forest concession along the Am Nok River. He also expressed his disapproval of making Eui Ju an open port.

In a certain house in Seoul a curious wind is said to have been blowing for some time. One day a man's topnot was blown right off his head.

On and after July 21, the laboring classes of Seoul are forbidden to smoke on the streets with pipes whose stems are longer than a span's length.

The Acting American Minister called on the Foreign Office about the 15th of July and demanded that the ten men, who, under the instigation of Sun Chin Moon, interfered with the traffic of the electric tramway, should be arrested and punished.

Prior to the middle of July the season was very dry in Korea. From that date to the present the rains have been frequent and copious.

On the 15th of July thieves entered the Government Primary School near the Government Hospital, bound all the teachers and carried away every thing of value which they could find.

On the 14th of July about twenty Koreans stationed themselves in the electric car station at Chong No and threw colored water on the clothes of all who traveled. This effectually stopped the Koreans from riding.



On July 14th the boys finishing their studies in the primary schools met with the scholars of the grammar grades, 105 in all, and received congratulations from the Minister of Education and the officials of his department. A number of prizes in the shape of paper, pens and ink were distributed.

The Korean Theatre was closed on the 16th of July "not to be opened again until October," was the announcement.

According to the recent census of Japanese residents at Chemulpo there are 1282 houses; the population is 5973; males 3413; females 2560.

The Chinese Minister sent a dispatch to the Foreign Office stating that he considered it wise to maintain the telegraph line between Eui Ju and Manchuria in order to facilitate communication between Seoul and Peking.

The Russian Minister returned on July 14th from Port Arthur where he went to attend a council of Russian officials met to discuss affairs in Manchuria.

General Chu Suk Myun was appointed Governor of South Chung Chong province in place of Hong Seung Heun, and Kim Chong Kiu was made Governor of North Kyung Sang Province in place of Yi Heun Yong.

Yuen Yong Sik, Chief of the bureau for editing memorials to the throne, was appointed Governor of North Chulla Province instead of the former Governor Cho Han Kuk. General Yun Oong Yul was appointed Minister of War.

The Minister of the Foreign Office sent his resignation to the Emperor on the 19th of July as he was very sick, but it was not accepted.

The Korean Minister to America, Cho Min Hei, sent a telegram to the Household Department stating that Prince Eui Wha, now living in America, had been beaten by an American citizen who thought he was beating a Chinaman. The aggressor was arrested and the Prince appeased by a money consideration.

The English Minister Mr. Jordan sent a letter to the Foreign office asking when Eui Ju would become an open port.

The Prefect of Kang Neung sent a statement to the Home Department to the effect that there was a barley famine in his prefecture which had caused the death and immigration of many citizens.

The Minister of the Foreign Department Yi To Chai is so sick (July 20) that Vice Minister Yi Chug Ha has been made Acting Minister.

Due to the hot weather about the 20th of July the Emperor decided to hold no more audiences until Autumn.

A Japanese merchant recently brought 250 bags of rice from Shanghai to sell in Chemulpo. After disposing of this he brought in a shipment of 1500 bags. Evidently a paying investment.

Because of the continuous rains the telegraph line between Seoul and Fusan was rendered useless for a short time.



During the heavy rains about July 10th the Seoul Chemulpo Railroad was unable to move the trains for three days because of the heavy flow of water which rendered the stability of bridges questionable and in places submerged the track.

After the removal of the telegraph poles which had been planted in the North by the Russian Forestry company Minister Pavloff desired the Korean Government to inform him of the reasons the telegraph lines of the American and German mining companies were countenanced and the aforementioned line of the Russian company was not permitted. The response was that the Post Office Department had granted the privileges to the American and German companies but had not done so to the Russian company.

Kwang Jung Hyun, the Secretary of the Imperial Cabinet, was appointed the Chief of the Police Department of the Army.

On the 14th of July the graduation exercises of the Primary Schools in Kang Wha were held and the prefect, Yun Chul Kin, presented a number of prizes of books, paper, pens, etc.

The Privy counselor Kim Sung Kye memorialized the Emperor, suggesting that a Loyalty and Truthfulness Guild be formed in Pyeng An Province and that all the young men be required to become members; that they be furnished a guild house in each village and provided with guns and uniforms. This would secure a body of possibly 100,000 of the finest young men in Korea as a militia reserve.

Owing to the dropping off of traffic on the Seoul Electric Railroad, the Acting American Minister Mr. Paddock sent a statement to the Foreign Department to the effect that because of the intimidation which certain citizens had created, the business of the company was injured and the Korean Government was bound to make this good either by securing peaceable conditions or paying 200 Korean dollars per day to the company.

There is a rumor that the 50,000 lbs of Government ginseng raised last year will be sold to Rondon & Company for 1,000,000 dollars Korean.

July 23 the Financial Department paid to the Kommi of Pyeng Yang a sum of money which was to be used in securing the release of a large number of the local shops which had been mortgaged to Japanese merchants.

The Belgium Legation is building on the site of H. B. Hulbert's former residence. The Mayor and Foreign Department recently sent men to define the limits of the property. It embraces about 8,000 meters.

The results of the census of Seonl (both inside and outside the wall) for 1903 gives.

Tile houses	8,091 ;	Tile and straw	4,143 ;
Straw houses	30,587 ;	Total	42,821 ;
Population	194,100.		

As compared with last year there are 115 less houses and a decrease in population of 2,546.

The Government has decided to employ a Belgium citizen in the Household Department at a salary of yen 1,000 per month.

The 26th of July was the hundredth day since Prince Yung Chin had been taken with small pox. His happy recovery was celebrated by banquets in the Government Offices and in the Palace. Many munificent gifts were presented by the Emperor to his officials.

The Russian Government have announced that in place of a telegraph line across the country from Yong Am Po to Manchuria they will lay a cable line from Yong Am Po around the coast and up the Am Nok river to An Dong. To protect this project they propose to introduce 300 Russian soldiers into Yong Am Po. Sixty houses have been built and some seventy Russian citizens are resident there at the present.

A number of soldiers and employees of the Government have recently been engaged in destroying worms which were playing havoc with the pine forest surrounding the queen's tomb. To show his anger at this wanton destruction of the district devoted to the deceased queen and his loyalty to the Government, one of the soldiers ate a bowl full of the nauseating worms. The proper officials heard of it and he was made a captain. Another soldier who attempted to follow the example of the captain was sickened by the meal and failed to secure the coveted promotion.

The Acting Minister of the Foreign Department Ye Chung Ha has been replaced by Cho Pyung Sik.

The Chief of the Household Department, Ye Yong Ik, has been sick some time. July 30 he had recovered sufficiently to attend to his official duties at the office.

The Seoul-Fusan Railroad is preparing to build a station outside the South Gate. It will be necessary to remove about 1,000 tombs and to cut down a number of the large trees on the property where the Temple of the God of War stands. About 400 houses will be removed between the site of the new Hospital and the railroad.

The Governor of Kyung Kui Province Chung In Sung will remove to South Choong Chung Province of which he is to be Governor. And the former Governor of Choong Chung Province Chu Suk Myun will take the Governorship of Kyung Kui Province.

There are about 1,000 tombs which must be removed to make way for the yards of the Seoul Fusan Railroad outside the South Gate. The railroad company has agreed to allow the owner of each tomb three dollars to defray the cost of removal.

There are 177 Japanese boats fishing in Korean waters carrying 851 fishermen. This is an increase over last year of 14 boats and a decrease of 249 men, according to the records.

At ten o'clock of the morning of August 5th the mass for the repose of Pope Leo was held in the Roman Catholic Cathedral. The Emperor sent the Minister of the Household Department and the Chief of the Ceremonial Department to attend in his place and the entire Foreign Office, in all twenty-three Korean officials, paid their respects to the mourners for the deceased. The Foreign Ministers, Consul Generals

and the foreign employees of the Korean Government with their ladies and many of the Missionaries also attended. In all there were 40 gentlemen and 30 ladies of the foreign community present.

On the 5th of August the Police Department inspected the prisons in Seoul. There were found to be 202 prisoners in confinement.

The recently appointed Governor of South Kyung Sang Province has resigned.

The Mayor of Seoul, Min Kyung Sik, has resigned and the Privy Counsellor Ye Pyung Sung has been appointed in his stead.

The Secretary of the Embassy to France, Ye Eui Chong has resigned.

The Prefect of the Yong Chun district on the northern border has resigned.

The Board of Generals are enrolling the new body of Korean Militia which they recently decided to organize. Six thousand are to be secured in Seoul and two thousand in the country. None under twenty years of age are to be received. The enrollment is compulsory.

The Department of Agriculture and Commerce have sent notice to the Police Bureau to make a list of all the shops in Seoul preparatory to the levying of taxes on merchandise. This is to be done by means of stamps which must be bought by the marchants and put upon their goods.

The Governor of South Chulla Province sent word that the month and a half of drouth was so severe in part of his district that crops were destroyed and there are no prospects of a rice harvest in the fall.

The former editor Chai Gang, of the Chei Guk News (The Imperial newspaper) is condemned to three years on the chain gang for seeking to secure a bribe of yen 7,000 in matters relating to the purchase of the man-of-war from Japan.

Whang Gyung Pill of Ham Heung has so gained the love of the people of his neighborhood that they insist the Government should give him noble rank.

The treasurer of the Railroad Bureau Hynn Yong Un has gone to Japan with his wife on business connected with the railroad.

On August the first the Minister of War sent a memorial to the emperor in which he objected to the proposition that the war vessel, recently purchased from Japan, be used for trade purposes and he further drew the emperor's attention to the fact that Korea being a peninsula had especial need for a navy. Years ago in fact she had possessed a large fleet, and now this boat was the beginning of an effort to establish the nation on a strong naval basis such as she had held long ago.

The students at the public school in Wonsan have completed their Summer examination and are enjoying a vacation. The closing exercises were the occasion for the presentation of a number of prizes. There are fifty students in the school. Some are studying the Japanese language and others the elementary branches in Ummun.

On Aug. 3rd a gathering of the Korean Government officials was held to discuss the views of the War Minister regarding a Korean navy and the proposition of Kang Hong Tai, Superintendent of the Imperial Hospital Bureau, that troops be stationed along the northern and western borders of the country, also the advisability of allowing certain districts, when money is scarce, to pay their taxes in rice.

The representative of the Korean Government at St. Petersburg, Ye Bum Gin, is so troubled with a throat malady which prevents his speaking that he has sent in his resignation to the Foreign Office.

Since the decision of the emperor to attach blame on the officials who failed to attend to their duties at their respective offices, a number of them have been found guilty. Min Yung Sun, of the Bureau of Records has been guilty of a "Blame" for five days' absence and the Minister of the Foreign Department Ye To Jai and the Minister of the War Department Yun Oong Yul were each guilty of "Great Blame" for ten days' absence.

A statement comes from Yong Chun Prefecture to the effect that there is a band of about one hundred and fifty robbers armed with guns and swords who are burning, robbing and committing outrages through that district. A force of one hundred soldiers is requested to assist in the capture of the band.

The Bureau of the Seoul-Euiju railroad have promised to buy of French manufacturers yen 10,000 worth of machinery to be used in the construction of the road.

The Korean Minister resident in Peking, Pak Jai Sun, sends word to the home office that the Chinese Government requests that Euiju be made an open port.

On the 3rd of August about 2 P. M. the Imperial Cabinet held a meeting to consider the following matters :

1. The request of the Hok Po section in An Pyun district that it be hereafter joined to Heup Kok and the seat of government be removed to Hok Po.

2. It was decided that Seoul property in the shape of land and houses should no longer be subject to pawn. The mayor is directed not to put his stamp upon the deeds brought to him by pawn brokers. This deprives such transactions of their legality.

3. In districts infested by robbers special police, fifteen to a district, shall be furnished by the Government.

4. A discussion was entered into of the method of making contracts between the Government and the teachers of the foreign language schools.

Pak Won Kwun of Kwang Ju, formerly Privy Counsellor, recently made a gift of 1160 Korean dollars to the residents of his home district with which to pay the taxes their famine condition rendered them unable to pay. He also gave funds amounting to 900 Korean dollars for the purchase and distribution of rice.

About eleven years ago the Korean government purchased property in Tientsin, China. During the Japan-China war the Japanese troops

took this property for war purposes. Payment has just been made for this property through the efforts of the Korean Representative in China.

Some of the Japanese residents in Mokpo have become interested in the island of Quelparte. About ten have taken up their residence there.

Sin Soong Sung who has studied seamanship in the Japanese government schools will be appointed captain of the recently purchased man-of-war.

Yi Fun Gwo has been appointed Governor of North Kyung Sung province.

The acting Minister of the Home Department, Kim Kiu Hong, has resigned and the regular official Kim Chu Hyun has been fulfilling the duties of the office since August 18th.

Word comes from Kiung Kui Province that rains between the sixth and eleventh of August were so heavy that the land was overflowed and great damage resulted to crops.

After reading the text of the proposed contract between the Russian forestry company and the Korean Government, the Japanese Minister in Seoul sent a dispatch to the Foreign Office to the effect that this contract gave the Russian Government an absolute position within the confines of Korea and if the contract is granted the Japanese Government will demand an equivalent right within the country or will use like extraordinary methods in securing the interests of Japanese residents in Korea.

The great Jubilee Celebration will be held the sixth of the eighth moon or September 6th 1903.

In each of fourteen districts in Korea twelve special policemen have been appointed to protect the inhabitants from robbers.

The large pond near the Independence arch outside the West Gate is being filled in to make way for the depot and yards of the Seoul-Euiju railroad.

A viaduct similar to the one now crossing the West Gate street will be built to connect the Palace with the former site of the German Consulate.

The Household Bureau have contracted with a French trader to purchase and import before the end of October 36,000 bags of Annam rice.

The British man-of-war Talbot was in Chemulpo harbor for five days this last month. This is the first British war boat to visit Korea for over a year.

The Annual Council of the Presbyterian denomination in Korea will open in Pyeng Yang on September 22.

There is a mistaken impression on the part of a few of the foreign residents in Korea that the work which is being conducted by Mr. D. W. Deshler in sending Koreans to work in the sugar fields of Hawaii is contrary to U. S. law. There is a clause in these laws which permits any State or Territory to advertise the advantages of and solicit



immigration to that place. The Legislature of Hawaii has appropriated a considerable sum of money for the printing of literature soliciting immigrants, in conformity to the United States laws, and a portion of this literature is being circulated in Korea. Those Koreans who have been in Hawaii for sometime seem, so far as the letters we have seen convey intelligence on this point, to be getting along very well, and their children are within reach of modern schools and advantages.

In our last issue we mentioned the reception of a letter from Mrs. Dye. This is Mrs. J. H. Dye, widow of the late J. H. Dye, of Korea.

Rondon & Company propose to send 50,000 lbs. of the ginseng purchased from the Korean Government to Shanghai.

The Korean scholars in Ka Chun are raising 3 200 Korean dollars to build a school in their city. It is the intention to teach Confucian literature and Chinese language beside geography, history and arithmetic.

On August 9th the British minister sent an urgent notice to the Foreign Office to the effect that Euiju must be declared an open port inside of seven days.

The Korean Superintendent of the Forests in the northwest has come back to Seoul after defining the limits of the grant to the Russian Company.

The Korean representative to England, Min Young Ton, has returned to Korea because he was suffering from ill health which prevented his attention to the duties of the position.

The Belgium Consul General sent a notice to the Government suggesting that they should have a representative at the gathering of the delegates of the railroad companies of the world to be held in Washington, U. S. A., in May, 1905.

The island Oolung To off the eastern coast of Kang won To is being settled by Japanese immigrants. There are at present sixty-three Japanese houses. Complaint was recently made by the Korean Governor to the chief of the Japanese police stationed there that the Japanese residents were cutting the trees on the mountain sides. The response was that it was permitted by the agreement between the Japanese and Korean Governments under which the former's citizens are permitted to settle on the island, and to stop the cutting of trees it is necessary for the local police to have an order from the Japanese Legation in Seoul.

The notes of the new Central Bank, which is being founded with the backing of the Government, are being put into circulation by the President, Yi Yong Ik. The mint is at present preparing one, five, ten and one hundred dollar bills to be issued by this bank.

The census of South Chulla province gives a return of 108,809 houses; 231,909 males and 188,362 females.

In buying the land outside the South Gate for the site of the new depot and yards the Seoul Fusan Railroad paid 128,937.00 Korean dollars for 2,346 kan of houses. The price per kan of the best tile houses situated on the main street was 140.00 dollars. Situated in the small streets the best grade of tile house cost 120 dollars. The second grade of tile house on the main street cost 100 dollars, on the side streets 60 dollars.



The straw houses on the main street cost 50 dollars on the side street 40 dollars.

In Tok Chun of South Pyeng An Province the rains have been so heavy that ten houses were destroyed and two men drowned in the overflowing streams.

In Im Sill a town of South Chulla Province seven houses burned about July 1st. Four days later fifteen burned, and again in two days, five more were consumed.

The following agreements have been made between the Superintendent appointed by the Korean Government to oversee the matters relating to the forest concession recently allowed the Russian company and the inspector in charge of the interests of said company in Yong Am Po.

1. The said district in Yong Am Po shall be rented to the Russian company.

2. The boundaries of said district shall be defined by the Russian Minister and the Minister in charge of the Foreign Office of the Korean Government.

3. The Russian company shall pay a land tax to the Korean Government.

4. If the owners of tombs within this district wish to remove them the expense of removal shall be borne by the Russian company.

5. If the company wish to utilize wood which Koreans have cut and are bringing down the river it must reimburse the owners with a fair and proper price.

6. The Russian company shall not raise any stock within this district except what is to be used therein.

7. Korean offenders within this district shall be dealt with by the Korean courts. Russian offenders shall be dealt with by Russian civil officers.

These contracts were signed July 20th by the Korean official Cho Sung Hyup and the Russian Inspector Bojisco.

The Japanese residents in Chin Go Kai have installed a waterworks system by utilizing the springs on the side of Nam San near which a reservoir has been built. From here pipes have been laid to the houses below. Korean residents in Chin Go Kai are given the privileges of the system upon the payment of a proper fee.

The Italian Charge d' Affaires recently took a trip to Tokyo because of ill health.

# Table of Meteorological Observations,

## Seoul, Korea, July 1903

V. Pokrovsky, M. D., Observer.

	Day of Month		Quick-silver Barometer at 00 centigrade	Thermometer in open air in Meteorological Cage. Dry bulb.	Minimum Thermometer Centigrade	Absolute Moisture of air, in Millimeters	Relative moisture of air in percentage	Rainfall, Millimeters
	1	2						
	1	749.4	23.2	20.0	12.1	59	—	
	2	52.8	22.0	17.0	12.6	61	—	
	3	54.7	24.1	17.0	13.6	63.6	—	
	4	53.0	23.2	18.0	13.0	67.3	4.1	
	5	52.8	19.1	16.0	12.0	73.3	1.8	
	6	53.5	21.3	15.0	13.7	75.3	—	
	7	51.5	22.1	17.0	12.6	68	—	
	8	50.2	23.9	17.0	14.1	69.3	—	
	9	50.8	24.8	18.5	14.7	66.6	—	
	10	53.6	23.5	18.0	14.3	68.0	—	
	11	55.3	24.5	19.0	16.1	73	—	
	12	55.8	25.3	19.5	16.0	68	—	
	13	55.1	27.3	19.0	16.2	61.3	—	
	14	55.2	27.2	20.0	15.6	60.6	—	
	15	51.3	27.8	22.0	21.0	74.3	23.3	
	16	48.0	23.5	21.0	19.7	92	25.5	
	17	46.7	22.7	21.5	20.1	97.6	106.9	
	18	49.8	22.8	21.5	19.7	95.6	26.8	
	19	48.0	22.7	21.5	19.8	90.3	65.2	
	20	49.3	23.1	20.5	19.2	92.3	—	
	21	45.4	24.5	22.0	19.2	85.3	75.8	
	22	48.7	24.0	22.5	19.7	86.6	—	
	23	48.8	23.6	21.5	18.5	83.3	—	
	24	52.7	24.1	19.5	17.0	78.3	—	
	25	53.6	22.5	19.0	17.7	88	5.0	
	26	50.1	21.4	19.5	18.0	74.6	31.9	
	27	53.1	24.0	21.0	18.7	85.3	1.1	
	28	55.0	24.2	22.0	18.6	83.3	0.2	
	29	53.4	24.7	22.0	18.8	82.6	—	
	30	53.0	25.5	21.5	19.8	81.3	—	
	31	53.2	26.2	21.5	17.4	69.6	—	
Av.	51.7	23.0	19.7	16.8	76.8	T. 362.4 A. 11.68		

Barometer	Temperature of Air		Relative Moisture		Rainfall	
	Maximum	Minimum	Maximum	Minimum	Maximum	Minimum
.....	755.8	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Date.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Date.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....

TOTAL OF DAYS.

Rain	Show	Hail	Sleet	Fog	Thunder, near	Thunder, distant	Lightning	Clear	Hazy	Strong wind
12	—	—	—	1	—	—	5	10	8	1

Calm.	N	NNE	NE	ENE	E	ESE	SE	SSE	S	SSW	SW	WSW	W	WNW	NW	NNW
26	0	0	9	0	13	4	0	1	7	2	17	1	10	1	0	2
0	0	0	0	0	35	12	0	5	18	4	78	5	30	1	0	3

## KOREAN HISTORY.

It was decided to deceive the enemy if possible, so Neung Pong-su, a distant relative of the king, assumed the name of the king's younger brother, and Sim Chip assumed the role of crown prince. Together they sallied out to try their hand on the Manchus. When they came before Mabudā, that hard-headed warrior looked them over, turned them inside out and sent them back to the king with the curt reply that, "As you have been trying to play a trick on us we will now consent to treat with no one whatever except the crown prince himself. If you will send him we will talk with you." This they demanded in spite of the statements of the messengers that the crown prince was still in mourning for his mother.

When this ultimatum was delivered to the king there was a division of opinion. Gen. Kim Nyu and several others averred that there was nothing to do but comply with the demands. But the king said, "I will die first." Kim Sang-hön took the other side and said, "Whoever talks of surrendering so tamely is a traitor." On the seventeenth the king sent Hong Sö-bong to the Manchu camp and said, "I am willing to send my second or third son to you but they are all in Kang-wha." They answered as before, "We will see no one but the crown prince." The king then despatched a letter to Kim Cha-jūm in P'yüng-yang, saying "We are hemmed in here and our forces are small and food scarce, but we have determined to fight it out even though it ends the dynasty. So hasten and come to our aid with all the forces at your command." The next day the guard of the North Gate made a successful sally, returning with six Manchu heads. This excited the soldiers almost to frenzy, and they were eager to rush out and engage the besiegers. Unfortunately all the rice that had been stored at the river for the provisioning of Nam-han had been seized by the Manchus, but the arms and ammunition were safe within the walls. The king took advantage of the elation of the soldiers over this successful sally to make them a little speech, in which he

remarked, "Shall we surrender or fight? It is for you to say." Sim Kwang-su answered grimly for them all and said "Show us the head of the man who advised to surrender." This referred to Gen. Ch'oe Myŏng-gil, but the rest did not dare to second the request. From that time the walls were guarded with renewed vigilance. Day after day the smoke of the Manchu camps went up to heaven round about the beleaguered fortress. On the nineteenth the king sacrificed at the tomb of On-jo, the founder of the ancient kingdom of Päk-je, of which Nam-han was for many years the capital. On the same day Gen. Ku Kweng made a sally from the West Gate and took twenty Manchu heads. This again excited the garrison almost beyond control. The following day a renegade Korean who had gone over to the Manchus came near the gate and parleyed with the guard, urging that the king surrender and make peace; but when the king heard of it he ordered that if the man came again he should not be met at the gate but that the guard should only talk down at him from the top of the wall.

The matter of provisions was one of prime importance, and the king called the chief of commissariat and asked him how many days' rations there were remaining in the storehouses. He replied that there were enough provisions to last sixty days, but that if great economy were exercised it might last seventy days. He said the horses could have but one measure of beans a day and the servants must get along as best they could, on barley and oats. Someone suggested that as there were a large number of people present who held no important position, the king ought not to feel obliged to support them, but the king vetoed this by saying, "They came here trusting in me and now shall I deprive them of food? No, we will all eat or go hungry together." The weather was very cold and the men exposed upon the wall suffered severely. Their cheeks, being frost-bitten, cracked open in a very painful manner. In view of this the king ordered that night guards be dispensed with and that no old or feeble men should be put on picket duty in these exposed positions.

The king again sent out a letter to the governors of the different provinces saying, "We are here hemmed in; our life

hangs by a thread. Let all loyal men rally to our support, and march against the besieging force." To Kim Cha-jūn he wrote, "For seven days we have now been immured and we have come to the brink of destruction. Come immediately to our aid."

On the twenty-first there were two simultaneous sallies, from the East and West Gates respectively, and each resulted in the securing of a few trophies. For the encouragement of the soldiers Kim Sin-guk suggested that a schedule of rates be issued offering prizes for Manchu heads. The king's intention not to surrender was still unshaken, for when a courtier memorialized him urging surrender he burned the document in anger. On the twenty-second a Manchu messenger rode up to the gate and asked if the king were ready to surrender yet. The answer came in the shape of fierce sallies on the South and East sides in which forty heads were taken and in which Gen. Yi Chi-wūn, with an iron club, killed two mounted generals. The soldiers were so elated by these successes, which of course could make no difference in the strength of the besieging force, that on the following day they made simultaneous attacks on several sides, in each of which the Koreans had some advantage. The Koreans lost but twenty men while the Manchu loss was much greater. As the Manchus carried their dead from the field, however, the exact amount of their loss is not known. The king celebrated the victory by making a circuit of the wall. The next day was wet and foggy and the cold was even harder to endure than when the weather was clear. Both the king and the crown prince came out in the rain to encourage the soldiers and they and many of the officials gave mats and blankets and the mud-guards of their saddles to help the soldiers to keep dry. The inmates of Han-heung Monastery, inside the fortress, presented the king with forty quires of paper, and several bags of vegetables, but the king distributed them all among the soldiers. Other monks presented three large bowls of honey, for which the king thanked them and gave presents in return.

On the twenty-fifth the Manchus completed a wattle fence completely encircling the fortress. It was thirty miles long and twice the height of a man. Some idea can be form-



ed of the numbers in the Manchu army when we know that this was completed in seven days. Every eighty paces a bell was attached in such a way that if anyone attempted to break through, warning would be given to the sentinels.

There were those outside who sincerely desired to give succor to the king and the court. Gen. Kwūn Chōng-gil, of Wūn-ju, gathered a small force and camped on Kūm-dan mountain in plain sight of Nam-han, and the king was greatly encouraged, hoping that the Koreans were rallying to his support. When this loyal band attacked the Manchus they were immediately overwhelmed and cut to pieces.

The Manchus caught every Korean they could lay hands on. The more vigorous of these they forced into their ranks, the old men were made hewers of wood and drawers of water, the young women were made concubines and the older women were compelled to cook and wash.

On the twenty-eighth the king sent a present of a bullock and ten bottles of wine to the Manchu headquarters, but received the reply, "Heaven has given us all Korea and we have no need of these things. Take them back to your starving soldiers."

Chōng Se-gyu, the governor of Ch'ung-ch'ūng Province, was consumed with grief on hearing that the king was reduced to two side-dishes with his rice; so he gave a monk two pheasants and told him to effect an entrance in some way or other and give them to the king. The governor himself came with a handful of men to Ma-heui-ch'ūm, only forty *li* from the beleaguered fortress, and there he was attacked in the rear by the enemy. His whole force was annihilated, though he himself escaped by leaping into a deep gorge, intending to commit suicide. But the fall was not fatal. Nam Yang, also, the prefect of Ynn-gye, wanted to do what he could, and when he learned of the distress of the king, he arose even on his wedding night and started for the seat of war. His little force was surrounded and he was ordered to surrender, and then it was that he made that memorable reply, "You can conquer my neck but never my knees." His tongue was cut out and his body was dismembered.

Gen. Kim Nyn had the idea that the Manchu force was weakest on the south and that if a sudden, determined attack

were made the line might be broken through. So on the twenty-ninth he called all the generals and gave his orders. They all disagreed with him and considered the project hopeless, but would not show insubordination. A considerable body, therefore, emerged from the South Gate, hastened down the valley against the surrounding line of besiegers. These men had no faith in the plan, however, and were prevented from turning back only by the sword of Gen. Kim Nyu which he used on a few as a warning to the rest. Gen. Sim said, "This is actual suicide. Let me take my company and go out here and show you at the cost of my life that this cannot be done." He pushed rapidly forward and was soon surrounded by the Manchus who had lain concealed in a bend of the hills, and he and his men were all cut down. When the ammunition of his men was gone they clubbed their muskets and fought to the bitter end. Two hundred Koreans fell in this rash adventure and Gen. Kim returned crest-fallen and ashamed. Having no excuse, he tried to lay the blame on others, claiming that they did not support him properly. He also told the king that only forty men had been killed.

Sim Keui-wūn who had been left as guardian of Seoul sent a letter to the king saying that he had made a fierce attack on the Manchus encamped at A-o-gā outside the West Gate, but the king afterwards learned that this was false, and that Sim had fled incontinently from before the face of the foe.

When the last day of the year 1636 arrived it found the relative position of the Koreans and Manchus as follows: The Manchu camps were filled with plunder and with women which the soldiers had captured; but what of the children? These the soldiery did not want, and so they were killed and their bodies thrown outside the camps. There they lay in piles and a pestilence was prevented only by the intense cold of winter. In Nam-han the greatest distress prevailed. The provisions had not held out as had been hoped. Food was all but exhausted and horses and cattle were dying of starvation. The king slept in his ordinary clothes, for he had given all his blankets to the soldiers. All he had to eat with his rice was the leg or wing of a chicken. On that last day of the year some magpies gathered and began building a nest in a tree near

the king's quarters. This was hailed as a hopeful omen. It shows to what straits the garrison was reduced that it should have pinned its faith to this childish superstition. It was the sole subject of conversation for some time, but it did the caged Korean king no good.

The next day was new-years day of 1637 and the king sent Kim Sin-guk and Yi Kyŭng-jik to the Manchu camp to offer the compliments of the season. They were there informed that the emperor's son had arrived and had inspected the army and the forts. Consequently on the following day Hong Sŏ-bong, Kim Sin-guk and Yi Kyŭng-jik hastened to his headquarters and were met, not by the emperor's son but by a general who said, "You have called us slaves and thieves but our course has been straight and consistent throughout." He then laid before them an edict of the emperor written on yellow paper, and they were ordered to bow before it. Its contents were as follows :

"The great, the good, the wise, the kind Emperor to the king of Korea. As you preferred allegiance to the Ming Emperor rather than to us and, not content with throwing us over, despised and insulted us, you now have an opportunity to see the fruits of your choice. Of a truth you acted wickedly in breaking your oath, in throwing off the Manchu yoke and in offering us armed opposition. I have now brought an immense army and have surrounded your eight provinces. How can you longer hope to render assistance to your "father," the Ming Emperor? The Mings are now hung up by the heels, as it were."

On the next day the king sent his answer couched in the following terms: "The great, the glorious, the righteous Emperor. The little country has indeed sinned against the great one and has drawn upon herself this trouble which lies hard by the door of destruction. We have long wanted to write thus but we have been so surrounded and hemmed in that it seemed well-nigh impossible to get a letter through the lines; but now that the Emperor's son himself has come, we rejoice, and yet we tremble. The Ming Emperor is no longer our suzerain. In this we have completely reformed. The people on the border have acted badly in ill-treating the Manchu envoys. We are truly on the brink of destruction

and we confess all our sin. It is for us to confess and for the Emperor to forgive. From this day forth we wash from our mind all other thought of allegiance and enter upon a new line of conduct. If the Emperor will not forgive, we can only bow the head and die."

When this abject document was read before the court, before sending it, some thought it too humble, but the leaders said it was the only course left; so it was forwarded to the Manchu camp. Answer was returned that the Emperor's son had not yet arrived but that when he came he would reply. Strange to say no truce was made and the Manchu soldiers, fearing perhaps that a truce might rob them of the pleasure of scaling those walls that had defied them so long, approached the wall that very night and with scaling ladders a considerable number effected an entrance. But they had underestimated the determination and courage of the defenders, and those who got in were quickly dispersed by Gen. Yi Si-bāk. Many Manchus fell in this desperate assault. Almost at the same hour a similar attack was made on the south side but there also the Manchus were check-mated by the watchful guard.

And now a diversion occurred. Generals Hō Wan and Min Yōng from the provinces approached with a force of 40,000 men and seriously threatened the Manchu flank. They were stationed on two opposite hills with a line of sharpshooters between. In the fight which ensued the Koreans held their ground gallantly and at first even made the invaders retreat; but this exhausted their ammunition and when the enemy reformed his lines and came on again to the attack there was nothing to do but retreat. The retreat became a rout and large numbers of Koreans were cut down, including Gen. Hō Wan. The other part of the army under Gen. Min Yōng held out a little longer but an unfortunate accident occurred which threw his troops into confusion. A large quantity of powder which was being paid out to the soldiers suddenly exploded killing a large number of men and depriving the rest of means for continuing the fight. So they met the same fate as the others. Those that the Manchus killed they stripped and burned but many fugitives likewise died of exposure and fatigue.

Gen. Sim Yun had been fortifying Cho-ryǎng (Pass) but when he heard of the rout of the 40,000 men he took fright and retreated precipitately, telling all he met that there was no use in attempting to do anything. Gen. Kim Chun-yong, however, had more perseverance and came and encamped twenty miles from Nam-han, occupying a position that was specially annoying to the enemy. A fight was the result, in which the Koreans were at first successful, but during the night the Manchus were reinforced and cannon were brought to bear upon the Koreans. All the next day the Koreans fought desperately. Night put an end to the battle and the Koreans finding that all their ammunition was gone, silently separated, burning all bridges as they went.

The admiral of Chŭl-la Province desired to render aid to the king and so getting together a little fleet of boats he came north to Kang-wha and joined the royal forces there. The governor of Kang-wŭn Province excused himself from taking active part in the relief of Nam-han on the score of scarcity of food. For this he was afterward banished.

Singular events were happening in the north where Gen. Yang Keun lay with a considerable force a short distance north of Seoul. He was however a coward and dared not move hand or foot. Two other generals felt that they might get into trouble if they did do not something, and they had the happy thought that they ought to report to their superior, Gen. Yang Keun, for they knew he would do nothing, and thus they would be safe, for their responsibility would cease. So they went to him and urged him to advance against the Manchus. But he declined to do so, and even gave them a written statement to that effect. Armed with that they felt quite safe. So there they lay a month till they heard at last of the fall of Nam-han.

Of another stamp was Gen. Yu Rim. He was on the road between Seoul and P'yŭng-yang and, being attacked by the Manchus, he and his little band defended themselves with such good effect that the Manchu camp resounded all night with wailings for their dead. The Koreans, finding that their ammunition was almost exhausted, then planned an ingenious retreat. Loading their muskets they tied them to trees, attached fuses of different lengths and then silent-



ly retreated. The guns kept going off all night and so the enemy knew nothing of the retreat until it was discovered in the morning.

Another effort that was made about this time was that of Generals Kim Cha-jūm and Yōk-dal who had a following of some 7,000 men. Starting from the north they came down to the vicinity of Song-do. Unfortunately they had no scouts out and suddenly falling in with a Manchu force in the narrow passage a few miles beyond Song-do, they were thrown into a panic and it is said that 5,000 men were killed, though it seems almost incredible that only 2,000 men survived out of 7,000. Gen. Kim escaped by scaling the steep mountain side but his second was caught and bound. The two thousand survivors rallied and attacked the Manchus with such fury that they were forced back and the captured general was rescued. Gen. Kim Cha-jūm then made his way to where Gen. Yang Keun was idling away his time, and together they awaited the surrender of the king. We may anticipate a few months and say that after peace was made these two generals were banished to distant places for their criminal cowardice.

Gen. Sin Kyōng-wan, stationed at Ong-jin in Whang-hā Province, was surrounded by the enemy, but the place was so difficult of approach, owing to the roughness of the ground, that they could not reduce it; so, hoping to draw out the garrison they feigned retreat. Gen. Sin was not to be caught thus, and sent out one of his lieutenants to reconnoitre. That man happened to be just recovering from a wound, and so he did not go far, but spent the night in a neighboring inn. He came back in the morning and reported the enemy gone. Gen. Sin then led out his troops to take them to the vicinity of Seoul; but the Manchus, who were lying concealed in the vicinity, rushed out upon him and captured him. He was released only after peace had been declared.

At Nam-han a severe mental struggle was going on. They well knew that surrender and humiliation were inevitable but their pride revolted at the thought, and each tried to throw the blame on the other. This may be illustrated by a single case which will show how mutual recriminations were being made in the very presence of the siege-weary

king. Yu Päk-jeung memorialized the king in these words : "Gen. Kim Nyu who holds the rank of General-in-chief is a man of no military skill, a man of jealous, vindictive temperament and his house is full of bribes. When the king came to Nam-han it was almost without retinue, but he, forsooth, must bring sixty horsemen at his back. And the females of his household came in litters. He it was who urged the king to give up the crown prince to the tender mercies of the Manchu wolves. He it was who compassed the humiliation of the king by advising him to send that self-effacing letter which, though so humble, was rejected. This is all the work of Kim Nyu." Here as elsewhere we see that personal spite has always been the rock on which the interests of Korea have been wrecked.

The emperor knew that he had the king secure, and he determined to delay the ratification of a treaty until his captive was reduced to the last crust, in order to brand upon the memory of all Koreans the indubitable fact of their vassalage and to teach them a lesson that they should never forget. And so the days slipped by.

On the sixth of the moon Korean messengers succeeded in getting through the Manchu lines and brought the king letters from his two sons on the island of Kang-wha, but the Manchus were aware of this and redoubled their diligence in guarding the approaches, and so the king was completely cut off from the outside. A few days later a costly joke was played by the Korean Gen. Kim On-yun. He led a small party outside the West Gate and soon returned with two heads. The king praised him and gave him presents of silk. The heads were raised on pikes, but behold, no blood came from them. A soldier in the ranks cried out, "Why is my brother killed twice?" The truth is that the General had beheaded two corpses of Koreans whereby to obtain praise and favor from the king. The king replaced the heads by those of the general and his second.

On the twelfth the king's emissaries went into the Manchu camp bearing a letter from the king. They were told that a great Manchu general was about to arrive and that they must come again the next day. The people in Nam-han were in desperate straits. All who had advocated continued

resistance now urged surrender, excepting Kim Sang-hön and Chöng On, who said, "Not till every soldier is dead, and all the common people as well, will it be time to think of giving in."

The next day the messengers presented themselves in the Manchu camp as ordered. The general who received them said, "You broke your former treaty with us. Are you prepared to keep it if we make another?" The messengers beat upon their breasts and cried, "It was our fault and not the fault of the king. We are willing to prove this with our lives." "But why do you not come out and fight?" "We are an insignificant power and how can we hope to cope with you?" was the humble reply. The Manchu then broke the seal of the king's letter and read, "When we signed the former treaty you were the elder brother and we the younger brother. When a younger brother does wrong it is for the order brother to correct him, but if it is done too severely a principle of righteousness is broken, and the Supreme Being will be offended. We are dwellers in a corner of the sea. We know nothing but books. We are no warriors. We are weak and must bow before superior force. So we accept the clemency of the Manchus, and we are now vassals and you are our suzerain. When the Japanese invaded our land and we were on the verge of destruction, China sent her hosts and saved us. Our gratitude to them lives in the very fiber of our bones. Even at the risk of incurring your anger we could not bear to cast them off. If now the Manchu power shows us kindness and goes back across the Yalu, our gratitude toward them will be the same. We have been a long time imprisoned here and we are tired and cramped. If you consent to overlook our faults we will engage to treat the Manchu power rightly. These sentiments are engraved on our very hearts and we surrender ourselves to the clemency of the Manchu emperor."

Food was now practically gone. The officials themselves were put on half rations and even the king's daily supply was diminished by one third. At the very most there was enough to last but twenty days more. At this time the Manchus burned the buildings in connection with the royal tombs outside the east Gate, and also those near Nam-han. The smoke of the burning went up to heaven. These acts of

vandalism must have been a bitter drop in the cup that was being put to the king's lips. On the sixteenth Hong Sö-bong again went to the Manchu camp and asked why no answer was sent. The truth is that the Manchus had determined to first send and reduce the Island of Kang-wha. They answered, "Gen. Kong Yu-dük has gone with 70,000 men to take Kang-wha. We must wait till he returns." The next day they sent the king an insulting letter saying, "Why do you not come out and fight? We thought we would get at least a little fight out of you. Have not your soldiers learned to load and fire? China is your good friend; why does she not send and help you? Now you are starving and yet you have the impudence to talk about righteousness. Heaven helps the good and punishes the evil. Those who trust us we aid, those who oppose we decapitate. As we have become your enemies you see us here in force. If you will come back to your allegiance we will treat you as a brother. If you wish to live, come out and surrender; if you will come out and fight so much the better. Heaven will decide between us." This received from the Koreans, starving though they were, the following memorable reply, "We will die and rot here in our fortress before we will surrender thus. Then there will be no one to answer your insulting summons."

On the eighteenth a Manchu general came near the South Gate and demanded that the king should come out and surrender or else come out and fight. The king thereupon sent a letter to the Manchu headquarters saying that he wanted to come out and surrender but that he did not dare to do so while the Manchu soldiers were prowling about the wall. As the king handed this letter to the messenger Kim Sang-hön snatched it from the messenger's hand and tore it in fragments saying, "How can you bear to send such a letter. Heaven will still favor us if we are patient, but if we send this we are truly undone." Then followed a scene in which the courtiers almost came to blows. Ch'oe Myüŋ-gil took the fragments of the letter and pasted them together and the next day in company with another general took it to the Manchus. They were met with the gruff reply, "We do not want your letters. We want your king to come out and surrender." That night the Manchus scaled the wall on the east side and a great panic

followed, but Gen. Yi Keui-ch'uk, with a body of picked men succeeded in driving back the enemy. On the twentieth an answer was received from the emperor who said, "The reason why we demand that you come out and surrender is that we may have a visible proof of your sincerity. If we depart now leaving you still king of Korea all will be well. Why should I deceive you since I am conquering the whole world besides? Need I use guile? I desire to punish only those who advised you to cleave to China and prove untrue to us. Before surrendering you must send those men bound to me. I shall kill them but the rest of you will be safe. One thing is certain. I will read no more of your letters." When the king saw this he cried, "I cannot send those men bound to him." In spite of the ominous closing words of the emperor's letter the king again wrote saying, "Korea to the worshipful, glorious, puissant, merciful emperor, greeting. We are narrow and provincial people and very deficient in manners but the contrast between our present mental attitude and that of a few months ago is surprising. Among our councillors some argued one way and some argued another but now starvation has brought us all to the same point and we know that we must become subjects of the Manchu power. But since the days of Silla there has never been seen such a thing as a king going out from his fortress to surrender. We cannot do it in that way. If you insist upon it you will soon have nothing left but a fortress full of dead. I have signified my willingness to surrender but if I should go out to you the people would never again recognize me as king and anarchy will result. I long ago banished the men who opposed the making of peace with the Manchus, so I cannot send them to you, but the emperor must now be gracious and forgive our mistake." When the Manchu general was about to send this scornfully back Yi Hong-ju told him that it was written by the officials and that nothing more was possible; and that if anyone suggested to the king the advisability of coming out it would mean instant death. But the Manchu drove them away in a rage. One official named Ch'ong On violently opposed all these attempts at securing a cessation of hostilities and said it would be better to sit there and rot than to surrender. He urged that the fighting be continued.



## Chapter VIII.

The refugees on Kang-wha . . . crossing the ferry . . . the Princess blames the commander . . . grain saved . . . cross-purposes . . . Manchu rafts . . . Manchus gain a footing on Kang-wha . . . Gen. Kim's flight . . . Koreans massacred . . . royal captives . . . suicide . . . ancestral tablets dishonored . . . list of the dead . . . from Kang-wha to Nam-han . . . fierce attacks . . . bombardment . . . the king learns of the fall of Kang-wha . . . Manchu victims sent . . . arrangements for the surrender . . . the Manchu conditions . . . the king comes out of Nam-han . . . the ceremony . . . disgraceful scramble . . . the king enters Seoul . . . condition of the capital . . . Manchu army retires . . . a high-priced captive . . . king and Crown Prince part . . . rewards and punishments . . . the island of Ko-do taken . . . an unselfish act.

We must leave the king and his court, facing starvation on the one hand and the deep humiliation of surrender on the other, and see how it fared with the people on Kang-wha. This island had earned the reputation of being impregnable, because of the failure of the Mongols to take it when the king of Koryo found refuge there. Kim Kyŭng-jeung was the commander of the garrison there and Im In-gu was second in command. Chang Sin had charge of the naval defenses. When the king sent the Crown Princess, the royal concubines, the second and third princes and the aged officials and their wives to Kang-wha a few days before his flight to Nam-han they were under the escort of Gen. Kim Kyŭng-jeung, who was also taking his wife and mother to the same place for safety. It was a long cavalcade, stretching miles along the road. Arriving at the ferry which was to take the party across the narrow channel to the island, Gen. Kim deliberately began by filling the boats with the members of his own family and fifty horse-loads of furniture which they had brought along, and the Princess and the other royal fugitives had to wait. For two whole days the Crown Princess was obliged to stay on the farther side in imminent danger of seizure by the Manchus. At last she summoned Gen. Kim and said, "Are not these boats the property of the king? Why then do you use them only for your relatives and friends while we wait here in danger?" As there was no possible excuse

for his conduct he was obliged to accede to the demand, but only just in time ; for, though there were thousands of people still waiting to cross, a foraging band of Manchus arrived on the scene and the terrified multitude rushed headlong into the water, "like leaves driven by the wind," and multitudes were drowned. Large store of government rice was lying at Kim-p'o and Tong-jin, and as the Manchus had not as yet discovered it, Gen. Kim was able to get it across to the island ; but no one excepting the members of his own family and following were allowed to have any part of it. He had such faith in the impregnability of Kang-wha that he set no guards and spent his time in feasting and playing chess. Prince Pong-im suggested that it would be well to keep a good lookout, but the general replied sharply, "Who is in command of this place, you or I?" This Gen. Kim was the son of Gen. Kim Nyu who had charge of the defence of Nam-han and between them they managed things about as they pleased. There was a running fire of dispute between Gen. Kim and the other leaders on Kang-wha and anything but good order and concerted action prevailed among the forces set for the defence of the people there. The Manchus, although without boats, had no intention to leave the island untaken, and so they pulled down houses far and near and made rafts with the timbers.

As it was in the dead of winter there was much ice on either bank of the estuary, and as the tide rises some thirty feet there the crossing was a difficult feat, even though the actual distance was small. Soon the message came from the ferry guards that the Manchus had finished their rafts and would soon be attempting the passage. Gen. Kim called them fools for thinking the Manchus would dare to cross in the face of such obstacles, but when it was announced that they had actually embarked in their improvised craft he bestirred himself. He sent a force under Yun Siu-ji to guard the upper ferry, Yu Chŭng-nyang took charge of the middle ferry, Yu Sŭng-jeung guarded the lower ferry and Yi Hyŭng was on guard at Ma-ri-san, still lower down. Gen. Kim stationed himself at the middle ferry. There was a great lack of arms, but as there were plenty in the Kang-wha arsenal the soldiers demanded them ; but Gen. Kim refused. It was the intention

of the Manchus to cross under fire of certain huge cannon which they had planted on the opposite bank. When the shot from these began kicking up the dust about Gen. Kim he found he was urgently needed elsewhere and was hardly restrained by the indignant outcry of his lieutenants. The Manchus were then seen boarding their strange craft and in the very fore front came a raft with seventeen men who held shields in one hand while they paddled with the other. Admiral Chang Sin was lower down with a fleet of boats and he made desperate efforts to come to the place where this crossing was taking place, but the tide which runs there like a mill-race was against him and he could make no headway at all. He simply stood in his boat and beat his breast with anger and chagrin. Kang Sin-sŭk was farther up the estuary with other boats and he hastened to come down; but it was too late. The first raft full of Manchus had gained a foothold on the island. The Koreans found their powder wet and the arrows exhausted. As a consequence the whole force, numbering about two hundred men, turned and fled before seventeen Manchus. These men paced up and down the shore waiting for reinforcements, for which they had signalled. Gen. Kim had already fled in a small boat, which finally landed him far down the coast. Then the whole Manchu army made its way across, some on rafts and some in boats which were sent from the island. The Crown Princess wanted to make her escape with her little two year old boy, but the Manchu soldiers at the gate of the fortress would not let her come out. She then gave the boy to Kim In and he managed to get through the lines and escape to the main land with the child, which he took to Tang-jin in Ch'ung-ch'ŭng Province. The Princess attempted suicide with a knife but did not succeed. The Manchus called out to Minister Yun Pang and said, "We will occupy the right side of the fortress and you and the royal personages and other persons of high degree can occupy the other side." They then took all the common people outside the North Gate of the fortress and set them in long lines. These people were all wondering what was about to happen, when out came a standard bearer carrying a red flag and behind him came a soldier with a bared sword.



